

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Changes to the specification are as follows.

Please delete the heading "Description:" at page 1, line 1, and insert therefore --
BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION--.

Please insert the heading "**1. Field of the Invention**" before the first paragraph of
page 1.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 3, page 1, as follows:

-- The invention relates to a composite multilayer material, in particular for plain bearings or bushings, having a backing layer, a bearing metal layer of a copper alloy or an aluminum alloy, a nickel intermediate layer and an overlay. The invention additionally relates to a method for the production of ~~said~~ the composite multilayer material, the production of plain bearings or bushings and uses for the composite multilayer material--.

Please insert the heading "**2. Related Art**" at line 11, page 1.

Please delete the paragraph at lines 33-34, page 4, in its entirety.

Please delete the paragraph at lines 1-3, page 5, in its entirety.

Please insert the heading "**SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**" at line 4, page 5.

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Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 5, page 5, as follows:

-- It has emerged that the presence of further phases of copper and/or silver in the bismuth matrix increases wear resistance. Although the overlay does not contain any lead, its specific load carrying capacity and wear characteristics are comparable with ~~to~~ or better than those of conventional lead-based layers. The overlay of the composite multilayer material according to the invention is conformable and exhibits a high degree of embeddability with regard to dirt particles. It is particularly advantageous that no low melting eutectics form in the overlay--.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 17, page 5, as follows:

-- More precise investigations have additionally shown that bearings of this composite multilayer material stabilize themselves on the initially still relatively soft overlay in operation after running-in due to heating and form a higher strength surface. This takes place as a result of the formation of a layer containing bismuth and nickel through diffusion of the nickel into the overlay consisting substantially of bismuth. The resultant overlay is wear-resistant and has a high load carrying capacity. By starting with a nickel layer which is at least ~~approx.~~ approximately 4 μm thick, it is ensured that the nickel layer is not wholly converted even after the running-in phase--.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 31, page 5, as follows:

-- The metals copper and silver may be present separately or in combination in the bismuth matrix. Their total content should amount to between ~~approx.~~ approximately 0.5 and 20 wt.%. Advantageously, the total content of copper and/or silver should amount to between ~~approx.~~ approximately 2 and 8 wt.%--.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 4, page 6, as follows:

-- The overlay should advantageously exhibit a layer thickness of ~~approx.~~ approximately 5 - 25 μm . Layer thicknesses of ~~approx.~~ approximately 4 - 6 μm are particularly preferred for the nickel intermediate layer as are layer thicknesses of ~~approx.~~

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approximately 6 - 14 μm for the bismuth overlay. With layer thicknesses of these orders of magnitude, it is ensured that neither the nickel layer nor the bismuth-based overlay is completely converted as a result of diffusion. This would lead to problems of adhesion or undesired interactions between the bismuth contained in the overlay and the bearing metal, for example in the case of lead- and tin-containing bearing metal it would lead to the formation of eutectics with very low melting points--.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 25, page 6, as follows:

-- According to the invention, the composite multilayer material is produced in that the overlay is deposited from a methanesulfonic acid electrolyte, ~~as specified in claim 9,~~ onto a composite of backing, bearing metal and nickel intermediate layers, wherein the electrolyte contains a non-ionic wetting agent and a grain refining agent containing a carboxylic acid. Resorcinol is present in the electrolyte as an antioxidant. If the overlay is also to contain silver, thiourea has to be added as complexing agent. Thiourea shifts the deposition potential to the effect that silver and bismuth may be deposited together--.

Please insert the heading "DRAWINGS" before the last paragraph of page 7.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 7, page 8, as follows:

--Figure 2 shows a section through a bearing consisting of the composite multilayer material according to the invention after the running-in phase; and--

Please insert the heading "DETAILED DESCRIPTION" at line 14, page 8.